

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Atty. Docket

ARNAUD FLEGEO

FR 000135

Serial No.

Group Art Unit

Filed: CONCURRENTLY

Ex.

Title: HOUSING FOR ELECTRONIC DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 2-10 as follows:

2. (Amended) A housing (10) of an electronic device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the cover (28) comprises at least two hooks (40) which are retained in assembled position by at least two associated stem portions (56) which belong to a locking element (46) shared by the two hooks (40).

3. (Amended) A housing (10) of an electronic device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the two hooks (40) are substantially longitudinally aligned and in that the shared locking element (46) is a stem whose two parts form said stem portions (56) of which each one co-operates with an associated hook (40).

4. (Amended) A housing (10) of an electronic device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that it comprises at least two hooks (40) which are transversely opposite each other and in that the

locking element (46) is a pin (90) in the form of a U whose two parallel longitudinal branches (92, 94) carry two stem portions (56) of which each one co-operates with an associated hook (40).

5. (Amended) A housing (10) of an electronic device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that in locked position the intermediate transverse branch (96) of the pin (90) in the form of a U, which forms a gripping element, is accommodated in a first chamber (98) formed in a wall of the housing (10).

6. (Amended) A housing (10) of an electronic device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the retaining means (60) comprise a boss (104) which extends into the first chamber (98) and which, in locked position, extends relative to the intermediate branch (96) so as to immobilize the locking element (46) at least in one sense of the longitudinal direction.

7. (Amended) A housing (10) of an electronic device as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the retaining means (60) comprise a blocking shutter (110) which is installed movably in a wall of the housing (10) between a blocking position and a retracted position so as to either or not prevent the movement of the intermediate branch of the locking element (46) at least in one sense of the longitudinal direction.

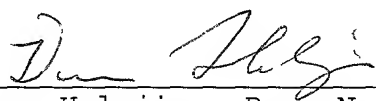
8. (Amended) A housing (10) of an electronic device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the retaining means (60) comprise at least a second chamber (62) in which at least one hole (64) is realized which accommodates at least one free end (66) of the locking element (46) so as to stop the latter in longitudinal translation.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment to claims 2-10 were made solely to avoid filing the claims in the multiple dependent form so as to avoid the additional filing fee.

The claims were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicant respectfully reserves all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicant furthermore reserves the right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Dicran Halajian, Reg. No.39,703
Attorney
(914) 333-9607
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Appendix A

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made to the Claims

The following are marked up versions of amended claims 2-10:

1 2. (Amended) A housing (10) of an electronic device as claimed
2 in ~~the preceding claim 1~~, characterized in that the cover (28)
3 comprises at least two hooks (40) which are retained in assembled
4 position by at least two associated stem portions (56) which belong
5 to a locking element (46) shared by the two hooks (40).

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2 3. (Amended) A housing (10) of an electronic device as claimed
3 in ~~the preceding claim 1~~, characterized in that the two hooks (40)
4 are substantially longitudinally aligned and in that the shared
5 locking element (46) is a stem whose two parts form said stem
6 portions (56) of which each one co-operates with an associated hook
(40).

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2 4. (Amended) A housing (10) of an electronic device as claimed
3 in ~~one of the claims 2 or 3~~, characterized in that it comprises at
4 least two hooks (40) which are transversely opposite each other and
5 in that the locking element (46) is a pin (90) in the form of a U
6 whose two parallel longitudinal branches (92, 94) carry two stem
7 portions (56) of which each one co-operates with an associated hook
(40).

1 5. (Amended) A housing (10) of an electronic device as claimed
2 in ~~the preceding claim 1~~, characterized in that in locked position
3 the intermediate transverse branch (96) of the pin (90) in the form
4 of a U, which forms a gripping element, is accommodated in a first
5 chamber (98) formed in a wall of the housing (10).

1 6. (Amended) A housing (10) of an electronic device as claimed
2 in ~~the preceding claim 1~~, characterized in that the retaining means
3 (60) comprise a boss (104) which extends into the first chamber
4 (98) and which, in locked position, extends relative to the
5 intermediate branch (96) so as to immobilize the locking element
6 (46) at least in one sense of the longitudinal direction.

1 7. (Amended) A housing (10) of an electronic device as claimed
2 in ~~one of the claims 5 or 6~~, characterized in that the retaining
3 means (60) comprise a blocking shutter (110) which is installed
4 movably in a wall of the housing (10) between a blocking position
5 and a retracted position so as to either or not prevent the
6 movement of the intermediate branch of the locking element (46) at
least in one sense of the longitudinal direction.

1 8. (Amended) A housing (10) of an electronic device as claimed
2 in ~~any one of the preceding claims 1~~, characterized in that the
3 retaining means (60) comprise at least a second chamber (62) in
4 which at least one hole (64) is realized which accommodates at
5 least one free end (66) of the locking element (46) so as to stop
6 the latter in longitudinal translation.

1 9. (Amended) A housing (10) of an electronic device as claimed
2 in ~~any one of the preceding claims 1~~, characterized in that the
3 locking element (46) comprises a retaining area (112) as well as a
4 variation of section which, in locked position, co-operates with a
5 complementary element (116) such as a clip.

1 10. (Amended) An electronic device formed by a housing as claimed
2 in ~~one of the claims 1 to 9~~.